

Discussion of Amendments

Claim 21 has been amended in Jepson form to overcome the objection by the examiner to the opening words.

Claim 24 has been amended as the examiner has suggested.

Claim 30 has been amended to overcome the examiner's objection to the grammatical error that was present.

Claim 34 has been amended to place it in better form for appeal. A narrowing limitation has been added as follows:

" the corner piece, vertical side edges of adjacent wall panels, vertical half-forms and joiner piece defining a vertical cavity that communicates with the footing volume and trough volume for receiving binder material."

The fact that the vertical cavity communicates with both the footing volume and trough volume forms a much more rigid structure.

Discussion of Examiner's objections

The examiner has issued a final office action rejecting all claims but claims 26 and 27. Incorporation of the limitations of claims 26 or 27 into claim 21 would unduly limit the scope of coverage for the applicant's invention to which the applicant is entitled to receive a patent.

The applicant has now amended claim 21 in response to the specific observations made by the examiner respecting the previous amendments to claim 21 directed to overcoming the examiner's position that claim 21 is obvious in view of Schultz. The applicant had previously presented in claim 21 a characterization of the footing form as being:

" i) attached to and extending laterally away from the wall portion on the flange side of the wall portion so as to remain with the wall portion in such orientation once the footing volume has been filled with binder material, "

The applicant had observed in his previous response that Schultz provides a removable form that is intended to cast both a wall and a footing at the same time. By way of contrast, in the present invention the wall is precast and the footing is only cast on-site as a separate exercise. Additionally, the form remains with the footing once cast.